

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information providing system, comprising:
a database storing ~~price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier~~ respective object prices at a plurality of bases of a certain object in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases; and
display control means for displaying ~~price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier stored in said database~~ information of said prices, bases and each supplier as stored in said database on display means.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 1, wherein
said display control means displays unit price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 2, wherein
said display control means displays the unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

Claim 4 (Original): The system according to claim 2, wherein

said display control means displays an amount of money based on a present currency of the bases.

Claim 5 (Original): The system according to claim 4, wherein
said display control means further displays an exchange rate.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 2, wherein
said display control means displays a difference in unit price among objects purchased at
said plurality of bases.

Claim 7 (Original): The system according to claim 1, wherein
said display control means further displays cost cutting information.

Claims 8-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An information providing system, comprising:
a database storing material information including respective amount-of-money
information and/or respective unit price information ~~about materials purchased~~ at a plurality of
bases ~~from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier of~~
a certain material in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from
each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases;
specifying means for specifying material; and

control means for displaying material information including the amount-of-money information and/or ~~the~~ unit price information, bases and each supplier which are stored in said database and are corresponding to the material specified by said specifying means ~~about the materials purchased at the plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material specified by said specifying means and stored in said database.~~

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores resin material information and/or mechanical parts material information.

Claims 16-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Original): The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores weight information about materials.

Claim 19 (Original): The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores material information and products; and said control means displays information about the products in which the materials specified by said specifying means are used after searching said database for the information.

Claim 20 (Original): The system according to claim 14, wherein

said database stores at least one of specification information, approved color information, and environment information about materials.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An information providing method, comprising:

~~the a step of storing, in a database, respective object prices at a plurality of bases of a certain object in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database; and~~

~~the a display controlling step of displaying price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier~~
information of said prices, bases and each supplier as stored in said database on display means.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 21, wherein

said display controlling step displays unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 22, wherein

said display controlling step displays the unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

Claim 24 (Original): The method according to claim 22, wherein

said display controlling step displays an amount of money based on a present currency of the bases.

Claim 25 (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein
said display controlling step further displays an exchange rate.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 22, wherein
said display controlling step displays a difference in unit price among objects purchased at said plurality of bases.

Claim 27 (Original): The method according to claim 21, wherein
said display controlling step further displays cost cutting information.

Claims 28-33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): An information providing method, comprising:
~~the a~~ step of storing, in database, material information including respective amount-of-money information and/or respective unit price information ~~about materials purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database~~ of a certain material in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases;

~~the a~~ specifying step of specifying material; and

~~the a~~ controlling step of displaying material information including the amount-of-money information and/or ~~the~~ unit price information, bases and each supplier which are stored in said database and are corresponding to the material specified by said specifying step ~~about the materials purchased at the plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material specified in said specifying step and stored in said database.~~

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 34, wherein said database stores resin material information and/or mechanical parts material information.

Claims 36-37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Original): The method according to claim 34, wherein said database stores weight information about materials.

Claim 39 (Original): The method according to claim 34, wherein said database stores material information and products; and said controlling step displays information about the products in which the materials specified in said specifying step are used after searching said database for the information.

Claim 40 (Original): The method according to claim 34, wherein

said database stores at least one of specification information, approved color information, and environment information about materials.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium storing computer-readable instructions for causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

~~the a step of storing, in a database, respective object prices at a plurality of bases of a certain object in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases~~ price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database; and

~~the a display controlling step of displaying~~ information of said prices, bases and each supplier as stored in said database ~~price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier stored in said database on display means.~~

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The medium according to claim 41, wherein
said display controlling step displays unit price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The medium according to claim 42, wherein
said display controlling step displays the unit price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

Claims 44-45 (Canceled).

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium storing computer-readable instructions for causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

~~the~~ a step of storing, in a database, material information including respective amount-of-money information and/or respective unit price information about materials purchased at a plurality of bases of a certain material in a case where the certain object is purchased at the plurality of bases from each supplier corresponding to the plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database;

~~the~~ a specifying step of specifying material; and

~~the~~ a controlling step of displaying material information including the amount-of-money information and/or the unit price information, bases and each supplier which are stored in said database and are corresponding to the material specified by said specifying step about the materials purchased at the plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material specified in said specifying step and stored in said database.

Claim 47 (Original): The medium according to claim 46, wherein
said database stores material information and products; and
said controlling step displays information about the products in which the materials specified in said specifying step are used after searching said database for the information.